

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. and 2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) Device for drawing a film web of thermoplastic polymer comprising a driven roller (2) driven at a speed of V1 and a second driven roller (3) driven at a speed of V2, V1 < V2, and the rollers (2)/(3) being arranged in such a way that a drawing gap (4) is formed between the two rollers (2)/(3), and wherein between the two rollers (2)/(3), a width-maintaining device is arranged which mechanically grips peripheral areas of the film web in such a way that the width of the film web remains essentially unchanged during longitudinal drawing in the drawing gap (4), and wherein according to claim 2 characterised in that the width-maintaining device consists of includes two pairs of carriages (5a) and (5b), i.e. four carriages in total, one pair of carriages (5a) and (5b) being positioned on one film periphery and each of the four carriages exhibiting several having a plurality of rolls (6a) and (6b) which are arranged in sequence, one carriage being arranged on each film periphery above and one carriage opposite below the film web and the carriages (5a) and (5b) arranged above and below a film periphery being positioned vis-à-vis each other in such a way that the rolls (6a) and (6b) are aligned in the direction of advance (9) of the film and the pairs of rolls (6a) and (6b) lying opposite each other gripping/touching the film web lying in between inbetween in the peripheral area (10).
4. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 2 3 characterised in that the length of the row of rolls corresponds approximately to the length of the drawing gap (4) such that the rolls (6) of the carriages (7) are arranged over the length of the drawing gap.
5. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that each carriage (5) exhibits has a double row arrangement of the rolls (6), the two rows of

double rows being arranged displaced to each other such that the distance between the contact points (8) with the film is halved compared with a single row arrangement of the same structural design.

6. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that the rolls (6) are freely rotatable ~~and not driven~~.

7. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that the rolls (6) are equipped on their surface with a rubber or metal coating.

8. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that the carriages (5a) and (5b) ~~can be moved~~ are movable by means of a pressure cylinder away from the film web or towards the film web and that the ~~a~~ fixing pressure of the pairs of rolls (6a) and (6b) situated above and below the film web ~~can be~~ are regulated via the pressure cylinder.

9. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that the rolls (6) are moveably connected with the carriages (5).

10. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 9 characterised in that the rolls (6) are connected ~~via~~ by a cylindrical slide bolt (12) with the carriage (5).

11. (Original) Device according to claim 10 characterised in that the rolls (6) are placed against a spring type pressure piece.

12. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that one carriage of each pair of carriages (5a) and (5b) ~~in each case additionally exhibits~~ has a slide rail (15) such that a pair of carriages comprises a carriage with a slide rail (15) and a carriage without slide rail (15) which are positioned opposite each other above and below the film web.

13. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 12 characterised in that the slide rail (15) is arranged in the area between the first roll in the drawing zone and the slower

roller (2) and a second slide rail (15) is arranged between the last roll in the drawing zone and the ~~more rapidly operating~~ roller (3).

14. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 12 characterised in that the slide rails ~~exhibit have~~ a tapering end towards the rolls (6) and towards the roller (2) and/or (3).

15. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 13 characterised in that the carriages without slide rail (15) ~~exhibit have~~ additional rolls (18) which are situated opposite the slide rail (15).

16. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 3 characterised in that the rolls (6) ~~exhibit have~~ a profiled surface.

17. (Original) Device according to claim 16 characterised in that the profiled rolls are covered with O rings of metal or rubber.

18. (Original) Device according to claim 16 characterised in that the surface of the rolls is profiled by engraving.

19. (Currently amended) Device according to claim 18 characterised in that the rolls ~~exhibit have~~ a profiled rubber coating.

20. (Currently amended) Process for longitudinal drawing of a film web by means of a device according to claim 4 3 characterised in that the film is first guided over the slowly rotating roller (2), subsequently passes through the drawing gap (4) and is then passed over the rapidly operating roller (3), and wherein characterised in that, during drawing in the drawing gap (4) both peripheries of the film are fixed between the rolls (6) of the two pairs of carriages.

21. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 20 characterised in that the film is drawn by means of a device according to claim 3.

22. (Previously presented) Process according to claim 20 characterised in that a biaxially drawn film is drawn in the longitudinal direction.
23. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 22 characterised in that the biaxially drawn film was drawn during its manufacture longitudinally by a factor in the region of 3 to 6 and transversely by a factor in the region of 5 to 12.
24. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 23 characterised in that the film is drawn longitudinally with a factor of >1 to 5.
25. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 22 characterised in that the film is a biaxially drawn polypropylene film which exhibits a thickness of 22 to 100 μm .
26. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 20 ~~characterised in that wherein the film web is a cast film~~ is drawn in the longitudinal direction.
27. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 20 ~~characterised in that wherein the film web is a prefilm~~ is drawn in the longitudinal direction.
28. (Currently amended) Process according to claim 26 ~~characterised in that wherein the cast film~~ is drawn longitudinally by a factor of 2 to 7.